INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — **NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION** — For Members Only

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Northwest Canners & Freezers

The Northwest Canners and Freezers Association, formed by a merger of the Northwest Canners Association and the Northwest Frozen Foods Association, was legally established on February 23. The merger is the first between two long-established associations of canners and freezers.

The Northwest Canners Association approved the merger in January during its 42d annual convention. The Northwest Frozen Foods Association, which is 30 years old, was the nation's first frozen food industry organization and is credited as the father of the large National Association of Frozen Food Packers.

A statement from the new group, which has its office in the Board of Trade Bldg., Portland, Ore., says:

"The two parent associations had been working on parallel programs with an overlapping of membership requiring extra time and expense on the part of a number of processing firms. The new association will now permit a greater concentration of effort on programs of interest to the fruit and vegetable processing industry of the Pacific Northwest. It also presents the opportunity of preparing for increased activity in the progress of food preservation and marketing,

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Call for 1956 *Directory* Copy

Compilation of copy for the 1956 *Canners Directory* is being delayed by failure of many canners to send in their data forms.

State listings cannot be completed until all the data are in. It is requested, therefore, that canners still holding *Directory* questionnaire forms return them to N.C.A. immediately in the self-addressed, postage-paid envelope provided.

Early publication of the *Directory* will greatly benefit the industry, since it will mean that the *Directory* can be placed in the hands of brokers and other marketing outlets at a time that will facilitate year-round buying of canned foods.

N.C.A. Representatives in Farm Youth Program

Canners in each of the important canning states have been appointed to represent the N.C.A. in the Farm Youth Program in their own states.

These N.C.A. members will work with leaders of the National Junior Vegetable Growers Association in carrying out the Canning Crops Contest on a local, state, and regional basis.

The Farm Youth Program was launched last year under the N.C.A. Consumer and Trade Relations program. Its primary purpose is to promote interest among young people in producing superior canning crops. It also aims to stimulate all growers in improving production practices and to promote better canner-grower relations.

The Program is supervised by Professor Grant B. Snyder, adult advisor and chairman of the board of the N.J.V.G.A., and Dr. C. H. Mahoney, Director of the N.C.A. Raw Products Research Bureau.

It is expected that the N.C.A. representatives in the various states will have the assistance of other canners in supervising the contest in their areas, and that canners' fieldmen will actively solicit participation of young contestants in the Farm Youth Program.

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Tour of N.C.A. Laboratory

The N.C.A. Western Research Laboratory recently was host to 32 students and instructors from the U. S. Navy Environmental Sanitation Technicians School at Oakland, Calif. After a tour of the building a discussion period was held, during which members of the N.C.A. Laboratory staff presented various phases of canned food technology.

This Navy school is the only one of its kind in this country. The students, after graduation, are placed in various Navy installations where their responsibilities include the use of canned food stores.

N.C.A. Approves Legislation on Water Pollution Control

N.C.A. has endorsed legislation providing for extension of the Water Pollution Control Act of 1948.

Endorsement of the proposed legislation, on which hearings have been held by the House Public Works Subcommittee on Rivers and Harbors, was made in a letter March 9 to Representative Blatnik (Mo.), chairman of the subcommittee.

The legislation, H. R. 9540 and S. 890, would amend and extend the

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Handling Perishable Crops

Production problems and losses encountered by canners due to methods of harvesting, handling, and storing carrots were brought to the attention of research workers in the fields of plant physiology and plant pathology by Dr. C. H. Mahoney, Director of the N.C.A. Raw Products Research Bureau, through his participation in a panel discussion held in connection with the National Conference on Handling Perishable Agricultural Commodities at Purdue March 14.

The conference considered problems connected with the inspection of perishable agricultural commodities, such as apples, carrots, and sweet corn. Other participants included research workers interested in methods of precooling, handling and refrigeration, and railroad transportation.

In his talk Dr. Mahoney brought out the fact that a very high proportion of the carrot acreage grown in the three important northern states of New York, Michigan and Wisconsin is used for processing, in one form or another. Some of the production in both Texas and California likewise is utilized by the processing industry. He pointed out that an extreme variation in case yield per ton of carrots indicates very strongly that this variability and the very high losses encountered by processors is due to poor harvesting methods, lack of proper grading, and disease in field delivered carrots. These same causes contribute very largely to the losses resulting from storage.

New Classification List for Export Statistics

The Bureau of the Census has issued a new statistical classification of exports. Its use will result in the publication of export statistics for fewer commodity classifications than in previous years.

Effective with the statistics for the month of January, the export statistics will be presented for approximately 1,520 classes of commodities instead of the 2,800 classifications in use through 1955. The items eliminated from the former classification are those having a low dollar value level of trade, generally less than $1 million a year.

The reduction in statistical classifications was made, the Bureau of the Census said, because its volume of work has increased substantially without a proportional increase in appropriations.

Following are the canned food items for which exports will be reported in the new schedule:

Canned Fruits—Peaches; pears; pineapples; fruit cocktail; fruits, n.e.c.[1]

Fruit Juices—Canned orange single-strength; canned orange concentrate; frozen orange concentrate; pear juice, nectar, and pearade; fruit juices, n.e.c.[2]

Canned Vegetables—Asparagus; tomato paste and pulp (puree); tomato sauce for cooking purposes; tomato juice; vegetables, juices, and soups, n.e.c.[3]

Canned Fish—Salmon; sardines in substances other than oil; shrimp; fish and shellfish, n.e.c.[4]

Canned Meat Products—Beef and veal; pork; sausage, prepared sausage meats, bologna and frankfurters; meat and meat products (including poultry), n.e.c.[5]

[1] This classification includes, among others, the following items for which export statistics were formerly reported: grapefruit, berries, apples and applesauce, apricots, cherries, prunes and plums, and baby food.

[2] This classification includes, among others, the following items for which export statistics were formerly reported: pineapple, grapefruit, peach juice and nectar, and blended citrus juices.

[3] This classification includes, among others, the following items for which export statistics were formerly reported: baked beans, pork and beans, corn, peas, soups, tomatoes, string beans, lima beans, spinach, and baby food.

[4] This classification includes, among others, the following items for which export statistics were formerly reported: sardines in oil, herring, tuna, mackerel, crabs, and oysters.

[5] This classification includes, among others, the following items for which export statistics were formerly reported: canned chicken, and baby food meat.

Tax on Puerto Rican Workers

The Internal Revenue Service has stated that considerable confusion appears to exist as to whether or not Puerto Rican farm workers are subject to social security taxes. The IRS has issued the following statement in order to clarify the situation:

"For social security tax purposes, an individual who is a citizen of Puerto Rico is considered a citizen of the United States.

"A Puerto Rican farm worker is subject to social security tax if he receives $100 or more cash wages for agricultural labor from any one employer during the calendar year.

"The social security taxes apply to cash wages of $100 or more paid by each employer in a calendar year to an employee for agricultural labor. The tax is 4 percent of taxable wages paid (2 percent employer tax and 2 percent employee tax).

"Any employer who paid cash wages of $100 or more during the calendar year 1955 to a Puerto Rican employee for agricultural labor should have reported and paid the tax on such employee prior to February 1, 1956. If this was not done, he should contact his Internal Revenue Service office at once."

Farm Youth Program

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The contest is open to all boys and girls from 14 to 21 years of age. Enrollment cards will be available from the N.C.A. representatives. They are:

EAST

New York—Donald E. Tobin, Victor Preserving Co., Ontario, N. Y.

Pa. and W. Va.—Allen Stauffer, The C. H. Musselman Co., Biglerville, Pa.

Maine—Charles H. Bailey, Monmouth Canning Co., Portland, Me.

Massachusetts—

Delaware—Henry P. Cannon, II, H. P. Cannon & Son, Inc., Bridgeville, Del.

Maryland—Samuel E. W. Friel, S. E. W. Friel, Queenstown, Md.

New Jersey—James B. Woodford, Campbell Soup Company, Camden, N. J.; Lee Towson, Seabrook Farms Co., Seabrook, N. J.; and Leo J. Nocenti, P. J. Ritter Co., Bridgeton, N. J.

MIDWEST

Illinois—Richard E. Schlecht, Rossville Packing Co., Rossville, Ill.

Indiana—A. C. Moll, Stokely-Van Camp, Inc., Indianapolis, Ind.

Michigan—A. Edward Brown, Michigan Fruit Canners, Inc., Benton Harbor, Mich.

Minnesota—J. P. King, Stokely-Van Camp, Inc. (Fairmont Div.), Lakeland, Minn.

Ohio—E. E. Richard, H. J. Heinz Co., Bowling Green, Ohio

Wisconsin—Russell H. Winters, The Larsen Co., Green Bay, Wis.

Iowa—Ralph E. Day, Consolidated Food Processors, Inc., Marshall Canning Div., Hampton, Iowa

SOUTH

La. and Ala.—Jack Bowman, Southern Shell Fish Co., Inc., Harvey, La.

Arkansas—

Oklahoma—Grover Howard, Baron Canning Co., Westville, Okla.

Georgia—H. L. Cochran, Pomona Products Co., Griffin, Ga.

Virginia—Henry P. Taylor, Taylor & Caldwell, Inc., Walkerton, Va.

Tenn. and Ky.—S. R. Clevenger, Bush Brothers & Co., Dandridge, Tenn.; and H. L. W. Hill, Tennessee Foods Inc., Portland, Tenn.

WEST

California—Fred S. Wyatt, Gerber Products Co., Oakland, Calif.

Colorado—Ben F. Counter, The Fort Lupton Canning Co., Fort Lupton, Colo.

Idaho—Leon C. Jones, J. R. Simplot Co., Caldwell, Idaho

Montana—Reynold H. Peterson, Big Horn Canning Co., Billings, Mont.

Oregon—E. I. Pitkin, Eugene Fruit Growers Assn., Eugene, Ore.

Utah—Earl Randall, North Ogden Canning Co., Ogden, Utah

Washington—L. M. Jones, Washington Canners, Vancouver, Wash.

Northwest Canners & Freezers

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to which the Northwest contributes materially to the nation as a whole."

Directors of the new association elected the following officers:

President—Norman W. Merrill, Blue Lake Packers, Inc., Salem, Ore.; first vice president—Arthur Reiling, Birds-Eye Division of General Foods Corp., Hillsboro, Ore.; second vice president—H. G. Hohwiesner, Starr Foods, Inc., Salem, Ore.; executive vice president, secretary and treasurer—C. R. Tulley, Portland, Ore.; assistant secretary and treasurer—Thomas B. House, Portland, Ore.

Handling Canning Waste

The N.C.A. has reproduced copies of a paper on "Current Trends in Handling Canning Waste" by Robert A. Canham of the Research Laboratory. Copies are available upon request to the N.C.A. Research Laboratory, 1133 20th St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Spinach for Processing

Reports from spinach processors in California and Texas indicate a 1956 production of 74,100 tons for canning and freezing from the winter crop in Texas and the early spring crop in California, according to the Crop Reporting Board of USDA. This is about 19 percent more than the 1955 production of 62,000 tons and 47 percent above the average annual production of 50,360 tons for the 1945-54 period.

The 1956 acreage for harvest in these two states is estimated at 12,900 acres. This compares with 12,000 acres harvested in the winter and early spring of 1955 and an average annual harvested acreage of 13,480 acres for the preceding 10-year period.

The 1956 indicated yield for these two states is 5.74 tons per acre compared with 5.17 tons obtained last year and the average of 3.74 tons.

State and Seasonal Group	10-year ave. 1945-54	1955 Revised	1956 Preliminary	Percent change from 1955 revised
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)	
Texas Winter	9,080	5,200	10,000	+19
California Early Spring	41,280	56,800	64,100	+13
Total	50,360	62,000	74,100	+19

Green Peas for Processing

An intended increase of 6 percent from the 1955 plantings of green peas for processing is indicated for 1956, according to the Crop Reporting Board of USDA. This indicated increase is based on reports from processors in late February and early March giving information on the acreage they intend to contract and plant in 1956. The indicated acreages for 1956 are interpretations of these reports from processors based on past relationships between such reports and the acreage actually planted.

If these early-season acreage prospects materialize, the 1956 plantings for processing will total 499,840 acres. This compares with 469,920 acres planted in 1955 and the average of 459,340 acres for the 1945-54 period.

Assuming a loss of plantings of around 6 percent, in line with recent years, a planted acreage of 499,840 acres for processing would result in about 469,800 acres for harvest. This would compare with 433,900 acres harvested last year and the 10-year average of 429,080 acres harvested.

Of the 499,840 acres in prospect for processing this year, intentions reports indicate 346,080 acres will be planted for canning and 153,760 acres will be planted for freezing. The acreage indicated for canning, including strained peas and similar products, is about 5 percent more than last year's plantings but 3 percent less than average. The acreage to be planted for freezing is 10 percent more than last year and 51 percent above the 1945-54 average.

The following table shows the acreages in prospect at the present time.

State	10-year ave. 1945-54	1955 Revised	1956 Prospective	Percent change from 1955 revised
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	
Maine	7,430	7,800	8,000	+3
New York	30,540	22,000	22,200	+1
Pennsylvania	14,460	13,200	14,500	+10
Ohio	3,360	1,300	1,400	+8
Indiana	4,320	2,800	2,800	0
Illinois	24,240	29,200	30,600	+5
Michigan	7,420	5,600	5,800	+4
Wisconsin	135,810	127,000	134,600	+6
Minnesota	52,600	62,400	63,600	+2
Iowa	4,280	4,200	4,100	−2
Delaware	2,490	4,000	6,200	+55
Maryland	9,380	9,600	10,300	+7
Virginia	2,320	2,800	2,500	−11
Idaho	9,580	18,100	18,100	0
Colorado	4,100	2,500	2,800	+12
Utah	10,780	7,200	7,200	0
Washington	61,900	70,000	77,000	+10
Oregon	56,230	63,000	68,000	+8
California	8,470	11,000	13,100	+19
Other states [1]	9,530	6,220	7,040	+13
U. S. Total	459,340	409,920	499,840	+6
For canning and other processing	357,570	330,530	346,080	+5
For freezing	101,770	139,390	153,760	+10

[1] Ark., Kans., Mo., Mont., Nebr., N. J., Okla., Tenn., W. Va., and Wyo.

1955 Pack of Pimientos

The 1955 pack of pimientos totaled 2,299,986 actual cases as compared with the 1954 pack of 1,488,343 cases, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

Container size	Southeast states	Other states	U. S. Total
	(actual cases)		
Tin:			
48/No. 4Z	848,442	97,344	945,786
24/No. 7Z	559,685	44,771	604,456
24/No. 14Z	43,353	900	44,253
24/No. 2	.....	.....	.....
24/No. 2½	95,278	33,649	128,927
6/No. 10	18,602	13,056	31,658
Misc. tin	.....	550	550
Glass:			
48/No. 2Z	191,254	13,550	204,804
24/No. 4Z	268,817	8,000	276,817
24/No. 7Z	59,922	2,500	62,422
24/No. 14Z	.....	313	313
Misc. glass	.....	.....	.....
Total, 1955	2,085,353	214,633	2,299,986
Total, 1954	1,293,075	195,268	1,488,343

Southeast states include Ga., Ala., and Miss. Other states include Ariz., Calif., Tenn., and Tex.

William M. Campbell

William M. Campbell, 85, of the Fayette Canning Company, Washington C. H., Ohio, who was elected to the Board of Directors of the N.C.A. at the last Convention, died March 10 in a Miami Beach hospital following a heart attack.

Mr. Campbell was a former president of the Ohio Canners Association and of the Old Guard Society of which he was a diamond member, having entered the canning industry in 1898. He had given previous service to the N.C.A. as a member of the Conference Committee in 1941. In his business career, Mr. Campbell had also been in the wholesale grocery business and once served as a director of the National-American Wholesale Grocers Association. He had been president of the Fayette Canning Company for many years and recently had been its active manager.

Water Pollution Control

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Water Pollution Control Act which is due to expire this June 30.

Following is the text of the N.C.A. letter:

"This letter is the endorsement of the proposed programs to extend and amend the Water Pollution Control Act that are pending before your committee.

"Abundant supplies of fresh pure water are a necessity to the operations of our members. Also improved and efficient means of solving their waste disposal problems are of prime importance.

"The Association's basic policy is one of assisting its members to improve their operations. The services of an N.C.A. sanitary engineer are devoted to basic research problems of waste disposal and the application of the most efficient methods to the individual member's problems.

"We feel that cooperation between federal, state, and interstate agencies and with the municipalities and industries involved should be continued; and that the assistance of the federal government in the fields of technical assistance and financial aid is necessary for such continuance.

"For this reason the National Canners Association supports legislation for the extension of the Water Pollution Control Act.

"We would appreciate it if you would see that this letter is made a part of the record of the forthcoming hearings on S. 890 and your bill, H. R. 9540."

Status of Legislation

Alaskan fisheries—A House Interior Subcommittee concluded its hearings March 15 on legislation to transfer supervision of Alaskan fish and game from the Interior Department to the Territorial Government.

Anti-merger legislation—The House Judiciary Committee on March 6 approved in amended form H. R. 9424, which would require prior notification to the FTC and the Attorney General of certain mergers and permit preliminary injunctions to restrain mergers. Amendments deal with penalties for failure to notify, and the exemption from notification requirements for relatively minor acquisitions.

Corporate tax extension—The House on March 13 passed and sent to the Senate H. R. 9166, to extend the existing corporate tax rates and excise taxes that are scheduled to expire April 1.

Customs simplification—The House-passed bill, H. R. 6040, to revise the method by which the value of imported merchandise is determined for customs evaluation, is pending before the Senate Finance Committee.

FDA chemical additives—Hearings on bills to regulate the use of chemical additives in food were concluded Feb. 14.

FDA codification—H. R. 6991, to revise, codify, and enact into law Title 21 of the U. S. Code entitled "Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics," was passed by the House and is pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

FDA imitation food—H. R. 3692, to prohibit the interstate marketing of any "imitation" of a standardized food product, even though the imitation product is plainly labeled as such, is pending before the House Interstate Commerce Committee.

Fisheries Commission and Corporation—Two bills, S. 3275 and S. 3339, introduced by Senator Magnuson (Wash.) will be considered in Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee hearings March 19-23. S. 3275 would establish a commission to administer all fishery matters, and S. 3339 would implement the "commission" bill by providing for loans to the fishing industry and limited authority in tariff matters.

Gasoline tax—The Senate on March 6 amended, passed, and returned to the House H. R. 8780 which would exempt gasoline used on farms from the federal tax of two cents per gallon. The amendment would deny contract operators, such as harvesting combines, this tax relief.

Import quotas—H. R. 8954 and other bills to establish an import quota mechanism are pending before House Ways and Means Committee.

Marketing orders—cranberries—H. R. 8384, to bring cranberries for canning under the orders provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act, is pending before the House Agriculture Committee. No action scheduled.

Marketing orders—potatoes—H. R. 9484 and S. 3262, to establish a national marketing control including potatoes for canning were introduced Feb. 22. No action scheduled.

National fish policy—H. R. 8001 and other bills that would establish a national fisheries policy and would transfer the Fish and Wildlife Service from the Interior Department to the Commerce Department are pending before a House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Subcommittee.

Negotiated procurement—House-passed H. R. 8710 is pending before the Senate Armed Services Committee. No action scheduled.

OTC—The House Ways and Means Committee opened hearings March 1 on H. R. 5550, to authorize U. S. participation in the OTC which is intended to provide permanent arrangements for the administration of GATT. Open hearings are scheduled for conclusion on March 16.

Poultry inspection—Bills to provide for mandatory FDA inspection for wholesomeness of poultry, and sanitation of plants handling poultry and poultry products shipped through interstate commerce, have been introduced in both houses. No hearings scheduled.

Price supports—The Senate continued to vote on amendments to S. 3183, the omnibus farm bill. The House Agriculture Committee concluded the "general farm legislation" hearings March 9.

Robinson-Patman Act—The House Judiciary Antitrust Subcommittee announced hearings on H. R. 11 and similar bills for April 18-20.

Statehood—H. R. 2535, to provide statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, was recommitted to the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

Sugar Act—H. R. 7030, to extend and amend the Sugar Act, was passed by the Senate and returned to the House for approval of amendments.

Trip leasing—S. 898, to prohibit ICC regulation of the duration of motor carrier leases, was reported by the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee and is on the Senate calendar.

Wage-hour extension—No action scheduled on H. R. 8553 or S. 3310, to eliminate all minimum wage and maximum hour exemptions to the present act which are applicable to first processing, canning, and freezing of agricultural and fishery products.

Waste disposal—The House Ways and Means Committee has ordered a tax bill to be reported in which a provision is included to encourage the prevention of water pollution by allowing the cost of treatment works for abatement of stream pollution to be amortized over a five-year period.

Water pollution—A House Public Works Subcommittee held hearings March 12-15 on legislation to extend and amend the Water Pollution Control Act of 1948 (see story, page 159).

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